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## **Butler County Sanitary Landfill Information Sheet**

December 2010

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### **History**

Butler County Sanitary Landfill, located near Poplar Bluff in Butler County, was permitted in 1980 under Permit Number 0102302. The facility is owned by Republic Services, Inc. The landfill disposal area is approximately 37.9 acres in size. Additionally, the landfill is surrounded by U.S. Forest Service Property.

Landfill gas was originally detected on the landfill property line in 2001. A Notice of Violation was issued on April 4, 2001, due to the detection of gas concentrations above regulatory limits. In response, the facility proposed to place two gas monitoring probes along the landfill entry road to determine the extent of the migration. The facility also proposed installing a passive gas vent system to prevent gas migration. Later on, the facility proposed to construct an active gas extraction system. These gas systems were built as the landfill increased in size. On July 22, 2008, the department met with the facility regarding continuing gas migration at the site. In response to the meeting, the facility proposed to place additional monitoring wells at the site, build a gas extraction trench near the affected wells, and talk to the adjacent property owners in order to control the gas migration in the area.

### **Methane Migration and Monitoring Wells**

In response to ongoing methane migration, the department issued Butler County Sanitary Landfill a Notice of Violation (NOV) on December 7, 2010. Gas monitoring wells BCLFGP01, BCLFGP03, BCLFGP04, and BCLFGP05 exceeded the regulatory limit for methane at the property boundary within the past year. A map showing the location of the gas monitoring wells is attached.

### **Summary of Recent Activity at Site**

The department has asked Republic Services, Inc. to notify the local fire department and send notification letters to both the fire department and property owners who are within 1,000 feet of any well with elevated methane concentrations. Republic Services, Inc. has also been asked to conduct monitoring inside structures and provide methane detectors to those who desire these safety precautions.

Republic Services, Inc. has been working with the department to control the gas migration at the landfill. In April 2010, gas monitoring wells were placed along State Highway T in order to

detect further gas migration. In August 2010, the facility proposed to add gas extraction trenches to the gas extraction system to prevent gas from migrating from the landfill. The department will continue to work with Republic Services, Inc. in order to reduce landfill gas migration.

If a property owner receives a notification letter from a landfill, they are being sent the letter as a precautionary measure to ensure they are aware of the potential for landfill gas migration in the area. Landfill gas is a term for a mixture of gases generated during the decomposition of waste at a landfill and includes methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and trace constituents of many other contaminants. The migration of methane from a landfill is a concern because methane is explosive within a certain range of concentrations (concentrations between 5 and 15% by volume). Methane is a colorless and odorless gas. The department encourages property owners or tenants to be aware of the potential for methane migration in the area.

The department's Solid Waste Management Program will continue working with Butler County Sanitary Landfill to develop and implement a remedial system that reduces methane concentrations in monitoring wells at the property boundary and controls it on-site.

### For More Information

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